



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

64 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2013

Volume 64 Number 3

www.phil-mont.org

March 2013

What's going on in March?

Easter & Passover

Daylight Savings starts on the 10th

So set your clock AHEAD the night of the 9th

Spring arrives on the 20th

Finally!

BoD meeting on the 6th

Membership meeting on the 13th

Quarterly morning VE session on the 16th

<i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer. Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225 Labels and mailing: KB3IV Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.		Directors: WU3I (14) KB3SJS(14) KB3MIV(14) WA3KIO(13) N3QV(13) K3GBA(13) W3AOK(A)	Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV
		Sunday Morning Net Schedules • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater	
Committees Audit: NS3K Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU Directory: KB3IV	DX: N3MT Emerg.Coor: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW Membership: N3XKE	Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK	Scholarship: W3RM Sunshine: N3GLU VE Program: NS3K Welcome: N3UBY Youth: KC2PMW

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: KB2ERL Bob Nicotera bnic1903@msn.com

Vice Pres: W3STW Al Tribble wstw@juno.com

Sec: ND3B Rick Devirgiliis nd3b@arrl.net

Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

Greetings everyone,

Looks like Mother Nature threw us a curve for February the weather was supposed to be far worse than what it was and that's why we cancelled the February meeting. It was better to err on the side of caution for everyone's safety. Well here we are into March and except for the extended cold we've had I guess you can say that snow - wise we've been pretty lucky. The weather should be breaking and it will be time for all the spring activities to begin; the hamfest schedule will be starting and it'll be time to do those antenna repairs and new installs. I still have quite a project going on at the shore repairing hurricane Sandy damage. Hopefully we'll be all done in time to enjoy the summer season again.

It's rare that you see ham radio evolved in a tv commercial but if you look closely there is one for Kraft Velveeta shells and cheese, the announcer talks about the guy with the ham radio in his basement who talks all over the world but eats the Kraft gold.

I had the pleasure of speaking at the meeting of SCARA Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association; I spoke about our club and its missions, the MS150 and our nets, we even showed our club movie Every Single Minute.

Well that's it for now, hope to see you all at the March meeting, till then stay well and keep talking.

73, Bob KB2ERL

Phil-Mont
Birthdays & Tidbytes

March BIRTHDAYS

01 John Furlong – KC2TUT

03 Elaine Spencer (Honorary Member)

06 Tina Furlong (XYL KC2TUT)

Bryan Kobe - KB3WHR

09 Fayette Toren (XYL N2MT)

13 Rosemary Canuso (XYL N2ATB)

15 Dottie Scialdone-Maresca - K3YPH

24 John Wright – K3CHR

27 William (Red) MacKenzie - W3RED

28 Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)

Tony Canuso – N2ATB

30 Robert H. Rose – N3TWO

MEMBERSHIP STATS

At press time P.M.R.C. has:

83 FULL PAID MEMBERS

10 FAMILY MEMBERS

3 YOUTH MEMBERS (under 17)

1 HONORARY MEMBER

1 PENDING MEMBER



***There is a Saturday VE session on the 16th
and the Thursday evening session is on the
28th this month.***

As always, many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary...

There was no Board meeting in February. The General meeting was cancelled due to weather concerns.

de Rick, ND3B

The following radio amateur has applied for membership in PMRC

Michelle London - KB3MTW
1575 W. Street Road #926
Warminster, PA 18974-3170
Phone: Home 215-672-7578 Cell: 215-260-8746
D.O.B. - 12/22/61
License Class: General (Exp.11/03/2015)
Occupation: Sr. Data Entry Opr.
E-mail address: MAL61@comcast.net
Significant Other: Neil Griffity - W2GTV. General Class D.O.B. 06/24
Occupation: Retired

THIS AND THAT

Miscellaneous Ramblings
Bob Thomas, W3NE



Professor Bob, W3NE

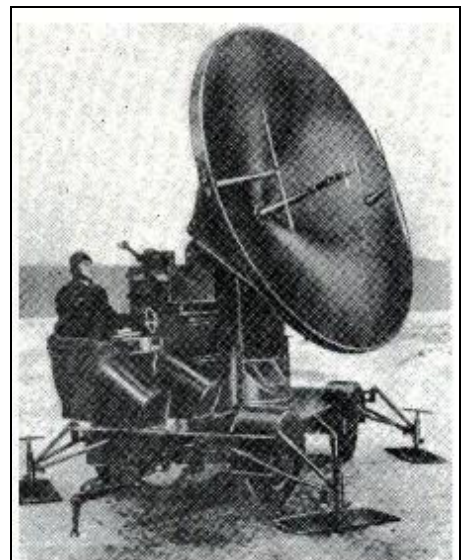
THE RAID ON BRUNEVAL

... and the rest of the story

Reginald V. Jones was a brilliant British scientist and wartime strategist. His insightful analyses and clever application of information from decoded German Enigma messages utterly neutralized the Luftwaffe's

elaborate system of radio beams that had guided Nazi bombers with deadly accuracy in early years of WW II. Following that success, Jones turned his attention to dramatic advancements in German radar. French and Belgian Resistance operatives had reported construction of large rotatable parabolic reflectors and, at great risk, provided British intelligence with sketches and even photographs of the installations.

This evidence contradicted a naïve RAF supposition that those structures were nothing more than gigantic searchlights. In fact, they were steerable UHF antennas, subsequently identified as such in aerial photographs taken on RAF reconnaissance flights by skilled Spitfire pilots diving at 300 mph through intense low-level anti-aircraft fire to an altitude of only 50 feet for oblique photography.



Recognizing that the antennas were frequently located in pairs near German airfields, Jones correctly deduced that they worked together in two radar systems – one that precisely located the position of incoming British bombers, the other tracking Luftwaffe interceptors who were guided to the marauding bombers by ground-based operators using voice transmission. That degree of accuracy demanded superb aiming precision, as even minute errors of azimuth or elevation in either half of the system would result in misdirection of the interceptors.

The German code name for the radar system with a parabolic antenna was “Wurzburg.” Monitoring stations in England determined the wavelength of transmissions to be 55 cm (imagine stable 545 MHz transmitters and receivers in 1941!). In contrast, the RAF used a *single* transmitter and receiver in a PPM (Pulse Position Modulation) system that displayed the target and interceptor simultaneously as pips on a circular CRT display. Thus, instabilities and orientation errors affected both targets equally, and “all” that was necessary was for the pilot of the interceptor to close the gap between the pip representing his position with that of the bomber. KISS was alive and well 60 years ago!

A Wurzburg installation of particular interest was identified in one aerial photo at the top a 100-foot chalk cliff in southern France, near the village of Bruneval. British High Command planned a daring raid on the Bruneval installation to seize the radar equipment and deliver it to England for analysis. An attack force of 120 was assembled, consisting of the King’s Own Scottish Borderers and the Black Watch (both highly disciplined, rugged Scots commandos and paratroopers), a Navy security officer, and Flight Sergeant C.W.H. Cox, an RAF radar specialist who volunteered for the mission. To minimize risk of “forceful interrogation” should any of the team be captured and identified as a specialist with knowledge of strategic information, all personnel were given temporary false Army serial numbers and Army uniforms ... all, that is, except Sgt. Cox, whose intractable RAF brass would not permit him to wear a non-RAF uniform despite inevitable tragic consequences from being singled out as a unique technical expert. No amount of logic could convince the RAF that Cox’s distinctive identity would tag him as a person of special interest, placing him in grave jeopardy if caught by the Nazis during the raid. Cox was, quite literally, “a marked man.”

In the afternoon of February 27, 1942, Navy evacuation ships embarked with a Marine landing party for the French coast near Bruneval. Later, in the frosty moonlight early the next morning, 10 airplanes carried

the paratroopers and Cox to their drop into enemy territory. They immediately divided into three groups: one attacked the German garrison stationed nearby for defense of the Wurzburg installation; another engaged a small contingent at the radar site while Cox dismantled the equipment; and the third began a sweep to clear the beach where evacuation ships, by then waiting offshore, would land.



Some of the Commandos

With bullets whizzing around them, Cox and the naval officer hurriedly disconnected cables from the radar equipment mounted directly on the back of the parabola, unbolted critical equipment boxes from the antenna, then trundled their prizes down a steep slope through a foot of snow to the beach, which by then had been secured by the third arm of the force.

At the last minute, commandos who had been engaging the main German garrison in a vicious firefight initiated “a tactical advance toward the rear,” joining the others in the boats – just landed at the beach – for return to England ... reluctantly leaving behind two men killed and six missing.

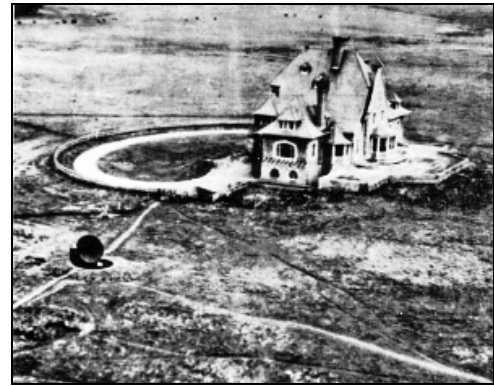
Although it had been planned to study the equipment in the presence of a German radar operator captured and brought back from Bruneval, it was soon learned he was a former convict who had been conscripted into the army and had little useful knowledge of the equipment itself. That was a common situation throughout German

technical operations where lack of operator expertise was compensated by sophisticated (read: “complicated”) equipment with minimal operational adjustments. Interestingly, from our perspective, when the top Nazi technical officer was debriefed by Allied intelligence officers after the war, he opined that German equipment had to minimize reliance on operator skill because Hitler’s ban on amateur radio in years prior to the war had so withered the reservoir of technically oriented young men that equipment had to be “foolproof.” In any case, examination of the captured radar yielded a mine of crucial information for countermeasures and, quite likely, some “reverse engineering” that benefited British radar. A secondary benefit was that it gave Jones enough stature among the RAF establishment to insist on initiating use of *window* (*chaff*, in U.S. terminology). By either term, the principle was to drop millions of fine aluminum threads – each a half-wavelength long – from an airplane to create a phantom decoy that appeared on radar as an armada of bombers, causing a diversion of enemy fighter planes from real bombing missions.

“And now ...,” as former ABC radio personality Paul Harvey was fond of saying, “... for the rest of the story.” The survivors of the Bruneval raid gathered for a reunion in 1947 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of their heroic operation. During the reception, Sgt. Cox chatted with one of the Scottish paratroopers. He mentioned how apprehensive he had been because of his vulnerability for being singled out if captured in his RAF uniform while everyone else was in Army dress. The ruddy Scott replied coldly, “That needn’t have troubled ye, laddie. If it appeared ye were about to be captured, we all had orders to shoot you!”

And *that* is the rest of the story!

[Summarized from R.V. Jones’ account in his book, *Most Secret War*, Hamish Hamilton, 1978]



I'm Chessie and I approve this message.

Come out to the March Meeting!

Vice President Al, W3STW has arranged for Mr. Howard Bishow to share with us the Crisis in the News Paper Industry.

Also, the program committee is planning a trip back 20 years in time to revisit the Club's amateur radio station W3TKQ NASA space shuttle contact.

I still want to hear about ACARS since we missed it in February! –ed.

Have you heard about D-Star?

Philadelphia Digital Radio Assn meets the first non-holiday Monday of each month at the Community Ambulance Assn 1440 East Butler Pike Ambler, Pa. 19002 at 7:00 pm.

The club has two D-star repeaters on the following frequencies: On two meters - 146.61 (-) and on 70 cm 445.18125 (-)

I run a weekly club D-star net on Mondays at 8:00 pm local time on the club 2 meter frequency.

de Jim, NS3K

Check out this rope for your antenna project –

3/32" Braided Olive Drab - Dacron / Polyester cord

This is a high quality braided polyester cord with a breaking strength of 210 pounds. Proudly Made in the U.S.A.!

This is a gorgeous solid braid perfect for dipole antennas. Very low stretch and strong. Will withstand the weather & sun for 7 to 10 years.

PRICE \$10.00 PER 100 FEET

SOLD IN 100 FOOT LOTS

CONTACT STEVE WU3I AT WU3I@ARRL.NET

An interesting event from Doug, WA3DSP

***The Southeastern Pennsylvania Cold War Historical Society proudly announces
The Spring 2013 "History in Our Backyard"
Lecture Series The Fuge/ 780 Falcon Circle/
Warminster, PA 18974***

***Events are open to the general public / Doors open
at 7:00pm Lectures begin promptly at 7:30pm***

ColdWarHistory.org RentTheFuge.com

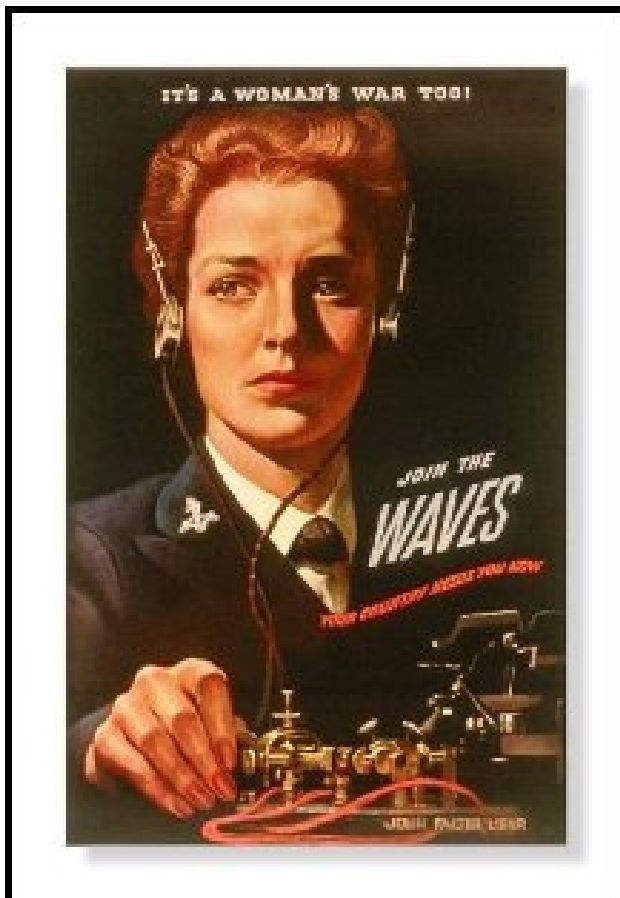
***March 12 Sonobuoys - The Underwater Ears of
NADC Art Horbach***

***April 9 In the Shadow of the Hindu Kish -
A-10 Missions Over Afghanistan Greg Marston***

***May 14 Johnsville's Role in Project Mercury Don
Morway***

Our thanks to Doug Crompton, WA3DSP

Contact him with questions: doug@crompton.com



March at Phil-Mont

3 Sun WU3I NCS

6 Wed Board Meeting

8 Fri Working Women's Day
(ain't they all??)

10 Sun KB3IV NCS

13 Wed Membership Meeting

16 Sat Morning VE session

17 Sun KB3IV NCS

24 Sun W3STW NCS

25 Mon Passover Begins

28 Thur Evening VE session

30 Sat Pencil with Eraser patented

31 Sun N3QV NCS

Easter Sunday

PRINTER TONER FOR SAMSUNG CLP 300
AND COMPATIBLES. NOT OEM.
2 BLACK 1 YELLOW 1 MAGENTA. 40.00
SHIPPING INCLUDED
Stephen Hoch WU3I Steve wu3i@arrl.net
CELL 2156056074

***Don't forget the ARES net on Sunday nights and
the Digital net on Tuesday nights.***

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First Class Mail

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